

stewards of Your divine purposes and to use Your gifts in ways that promote justice and equity to every person. May we work together as faithful custodians of the bounty of Your creation and reflect in our lives the beauty of all Your gifts. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MARKEY] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MARKEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

CONTINUE ON THE PATH TO A BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, we are back and we have learned a lot. No. 1, you cannot negotiate with a "say anything, do nothing" President. It is clear that he is for big government, he is for higher taxes, and he is for more spending. The President condones wasteful spending in the Government.

We have "out of town" Brown, Secretary of Commerce, who has over-extended his travel budget. We have Secretary O'Leary, who is a congenital flier. We cannot keep her in town. But this is just the tip of the iceberg. We have massive wastes of Federal spending in our bureaucracy and we must downsize it.

Mr. Speaker, we are back, we are for a balanced budget, we are on track to get there. We are going to continue to keep pressure on the administration. We are going to reform Medicaid through block grants, we are going to preserve and protect Medicare, and we are going to try to give back to American families some of what they lost in the 1990 tax increase and in the 1993 tax increase. So we are working that hard and we are going to continue on that path. I appreciate my fellow colleagues who are going to join in that effort.

THE 7-YEAR BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, welcome back. I am glad to welcome our folks back to the kinder and gentler Congress after that first 1-minute.

Mr. Speaker, if you think you remember hearing congressional Republicans saying all they wanted was a CBO-scored 7-year balanced budget, your memory is not failing you. Here is what they said:

Our House budget chairman. "Frankly, we don't ask for a lot. We ask for nothing more than a commitment to do this in a 7-year period."

Our colleague from Idaho. "We have no hidden agenda. The only thing we are asking for is a 7-year balanced budget using CBO numbers."

A colleague from New York. "All we have asked the President of the United States with all his tremendous resources at his hands to do likewise, to come up with those numbers reflecting his own priorities to balance the budget in 7 years using real numbers. That is all we have asked for."

Now they want more. They want their balanced budget bill. They want to include deep cuts in Medicare needs, education needs, and the environment in order to fund a massive tax break, or no bill at all.

The President sent a 7-year balanced budget 2 weeks ago with CBO numbers. But that is not good enough because that is not what their priorities are. They want to hurt seniors and hurt education funding.

HONEST NUMBERS TO BALANCE THE BUDGET IN 7 YEARS IS THE STARTING POINT

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, once again, I listened with interest to the remarks of my friend from Texas, and what a pity it is, ladies and gentlemen, that the minority is reduced to this, to chanting a seemingly mindless mantra, with no basis in fact, with selective use of quotation.

What this new majority always said is that the starting point was looking to find numbers, honest numbers, that begin to balance this budget in 7 years. That is the starting point. That is the parameters of the debate. But it is not a fait accompli. It is not sending us a budget that has all the savings in the last year and continues the culture of tax and spend and spend and tax some more.

What the American people want, Mr. Speaker, is this: A government that achieves an honest consensus, that saves not only the seniors of this generation, but generations yet unborn; a commonsense budget and set of priorities that preserves this great noble experiment in a constitutional republic and preserves this American dream.

That is the task before all of us, conservative and liberal, Republican and Democrat.

COURT-MARTIAL OF MICHAEL NEW IS WRONG

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Michael New is a decorated soldier, he loves his country. His bravery, patriotism, and devotion to duty have never been questioned. As we meet today, Michael New is being court-martialed, court-martialed for refusing to wear the blue beret and shoulder patch of the United Nations on a peacekeeping mission.

Michael New said, "I will only wear the uniform of my country, the United States of America." Bravo, Michael New. Michael New took an oath to the Constitution of the United States, not to the charter of the United Nations, and I cannot speak for the Congress, ladies and gentlemen, but if I could, I would tell all these politically correct bureaucrats to take their one world order hands off Michael New and leave him alone.

Mr. Speaker, there is something drastically wrong when a military hero is being court-martialed because he refuses to wear a foreign uniform. Think about it and beam me up.

FROM THE WHITE HOUSE ON TAX RELIEF

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, here is a quote from the White House yesterday. "But he"—meaning President Clinton—"will certainly acknowledge that tax relief, as he has been fighting for as President, is something that remains very important."

Mr. Speaker, let me point out that Clinton is now in the fourth year of his Presidency. If he has been fighting for tax relief, why don't the taxpayers have it?

Is it because in his first year as President, he pushed the largest tax increase in history on the backs of the American people?

Is it because when a middle-class, family tax relief bill was laid on his desk, he vetoed it?

Or is it because he didn't even start talking about tax cuts until Republicans became the majority in Congress?

Mr. Speaker, all the above help point out that Bill Clinton is a say-anything, do-nothing liberal President. He claims to be for the people, but his actions show that his policies are higher taxes, bigger government, and more spending.

THREE STRIKES AND YOU ARE OUT

(Mr. MARKEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1